

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, James Mahowald has dedicated the past 18 years to serving the people of South Dakota as a member of the South Dakota Transportation Commission, having served his tenure with dedication and commitment to excellence while providing outstanding leadership to the South Dakota Department of Transportation and the citizens of South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Jim has been an important leader in the development of the state's infrastructure, overseeing billions of dollars of highway construction and maintenance projects; and,

Whereas, Jim has enjoyed many beautiful South Dakota sunrises and the quiet prairie peacefulness on his early morning drives between Watertown and Pierre to attend commission meetings; and,

Whereas, Jim has proven himself dedicated to the future of the state, not only in the area of transportation, but education as well, having served on the Watertown School Board for 13 years and as a member of the Board of Directors for the Arrow Education Foundation for 3 years; and,

Whereas, Jim earned his business degree and served in the Army in the mid-1950s, returning to Watertown where, during his career, he has shown tremendous business sense, serving as a community leader, and continuing to work full-time at Mahowald Hardware in Watertown, a business his grandfather started as a harness shop 100 years ago; and,

Whereas, Due to Jim's leadership abilities, he was elected as the Chairman of the Board of the "Do It Best" hardware chain based out of Indiana and served on the board for over 12 years; and,

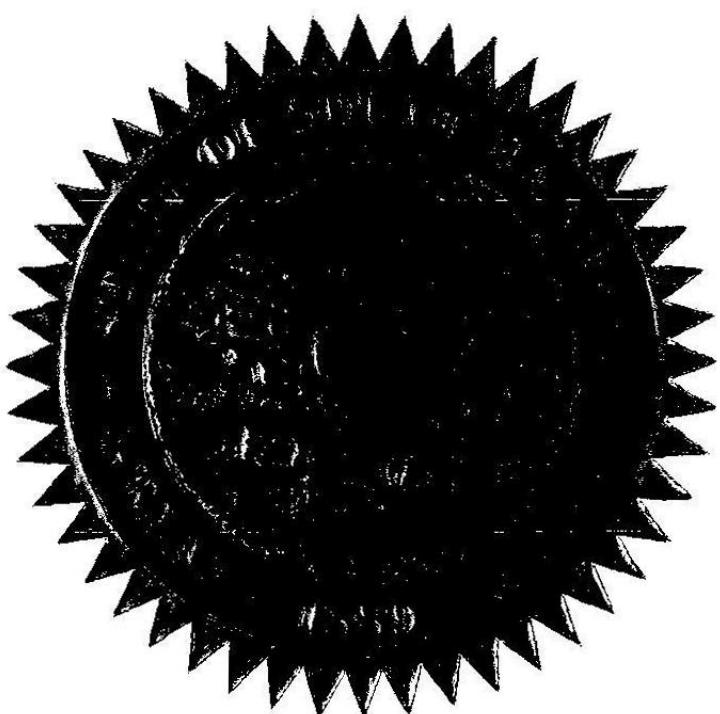
Whereas, A very dedicated family man, Jim and his wife, Kay, have 9 children and 14 grandchildren; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper to honor this outstanding South Dakotan on the occasion of his retirement for his talent, hard work and down-to-earth attitude which have set a stellar example for all those who will follow in his footsteps:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 27, 2005, as

JAMES MAHOWALD DAY

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fifth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

M. Michael Rounds

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest: _____
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State